

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 13, 33 and 34 are now pending in the application, with claims 1, 6 and 7 being the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 5-8 recite allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten into independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This has been done above, as follows. The limitations of former dependent claims 4 and 5 have been incorporated into independent claim 1, and claims 4 and 5 have been canceled above. The limitations of former independent claim 1 have been incorporated into dependent claims 6 and 7, and claims 6 and 7 have been rewritten into independent form. In addition, claims 16, 18-24 and 26 have been canceled above.

Also, the claims, Specification and drawings have been amended to address the various objections made in the Office Action. Each such objection is discussed in more detail in the following paragraphs.

First, Applicants confirm the election of the Group I claims. The Group II claims have been canceled above.

Various objections have been made to the Specification. In response, the referenced portions of the Specification have been amended above, addressing each such objection. Included in the Specification amendments is the selection of a new title for the application, which new title is believed to be fully descriptive of the present invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of all objections to the Specification is respectfully requested.

Objection was made to Figure 1 for including an unlabeled component. In response, the subject component has been labeled as element 21, and the paragraph at page 8 lines 5-7 of the Specification has been amended to reference that element number.

Objection was made to Figure 2 because it references a wire as element number 48, while the Specification refers to element 48 has a “feedback circuit”. In response, the Specification has been amended above to change all references therein such that element 48 refers to a “feedback path”, rather than a “feedback circuit”.

Objection was made to Figures 1 and 2 because (i) those figures show plate 38 being outside of the switch sensing oscillator 18, while the Specification describes oscillator 18 as including plate 38, and (ii) the Specification describes plate 38 as being mounted to the rear surface 34 of the face plate 16 while the drawings do not show such mounting. In response to the first ground for this objection, Figures 1 and 2 have been amended so as to extend oscillator 18 to include sensing plate 38.

As to the second ground, it is noted that the descriptions of Figures 1 and 2 on page 7 of the Specification indicate that they are “schematic” diagrams of the corresponding circuits and not structural depictions of their assembly. Moreover, particularly with the amendment to include plate 38 as a part of oscillator 18, it would be very difficult to clearly show such mounting in the context of these drawings. Finally, it is noted that the use of such mounting represents merely one embodiment of the invention. For these reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this ground of the objection

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, withdrawal of all objections to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Objection also was made to claims 1, 2, 4, 6-8 and 33, based on certain informalities. In response, the claims have been amended above, addressing each such objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections to the claims is respectfully requested.

As noted above, the claims have been amended above to take the subject matter indicated by the Examiner as being allowable, and amendments and remarks have been made to address all outstanding objections to the claims, Specification and drawings. Accordingly, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper that have not been accounted for in this paper or the accompanying papers, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 13-3735. If an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is required for the filing of this paper and is not accounted for in this paper or the accompanying papers, such an extension is requested and the fee (or any underpayment thereof) should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Dated: May 8, 2006

Respectfully submitted,
MITCHELL, SILBERBERG & KNUPP LLP

MITCHELL, SILBERBERG & KNUPP LLP
11377 West Olympic Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90064
Telephone: (310) 312-2000
Facsimile: (310) 312-3100

By /Joseph G. Swan/
Joseph G. Swan
Registration No. 41,338